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The Bulletin.

MENTAL VENEERING.

An Ample Educational Apparatus With Little to Show for It-The Want of Intellectual Culture in the Upper Classes of English Society.

[From the London World.] We have just arrived at the end of a period which may be described as the great educational opportunity in society's year. The whirt of the London season has already well nigh begue, and the business of intellectual culture will have to be laid aside for another twelve months. Lent, however, has been the epoch of not only penitential abstinence, but has also been utilized as the convenient occasion for enriching the mind with the wisdom of ages, and fortifying the and teachers, old and new, whom, in the press and hurry of their ordinary existence. the men and women of the nineteenth certury can scarcely find time to notice. Regularly once a year we are told how many tons of literature have been produced by the native authors of the British isle, and how many there have been imported from | but then he may have the satisfaction of abroad. This item of statistical intelligence is frequently supplemented by an estimate of the number of readers at the British museum, with the average of the books which they have consulted; while latterly Mr. Mudie has been in the habit of giving us a calulation of the part which his library plays in the education or amusement of the upper or middle classes. It would be exceedingly interesting if to the information thus supplied could be added a tabular statement showing the seasons of the year at which his store of mental paledom was chiefly consumed. There is at least one re-

sult which it may be predleted with confidence it would yield. The points world would be found to depend simost entirely for its knowledge of cure of or past litera. ture, philosphy, or science on the facts which it could master during the forty days that follow Ash Wednesday. To read during the London season is as hopeless as to en leavor to decipher an inegible manuscript in an express train. When the season is over, the jaded system revolts tro n the thought of study, while the countryhouse visits of autumn and winter are out a rejetition of the chief episodes of the metropolitan spring and snamer.

EDUCATIONAL APPABATES. Yet if our zeal for knowledge bear any clation to our opportunities for knowledge we ought beyond doubt be the most highly esticated people in the world. Our educafound apparatus grows daily. New institutions are opened; new schemes of lectures are announced. The production of what may be called the literature of information is immensely on the furrease. Fresh blographies, fresh books of travel appear every week, and if one consults the well-informed officials at any of the public libraries, one will be told that the popularity which there enjoy is altogether in excess of the demand after novels and other literary frivolities. ientific manuals and theological text-

books are also greatly in request. And this is but a small part of the machinery with which society is provided for the improvement of its mind. An eminent philologist condenses, in a lucid and wellplanned discourse, the researches of years m'o an hour and a half. An historian who, after half a century devoted to the examination of the monumental records, corroded coins and shapeless tombstones, has succeeded in circumstantially demonstrating that the testimony on which his predecessors depends is worthless, constructs with fascinating facility an entirely new theory of the development of the nation, and explains it to a well-dressed, well-bred audience in the early part of a Saturday afternoon. Famous geologists, palaontologists, chemists, psychologists, and savans generally, invest the most profound of subjects and the most obscure of speculation with the vivid personal interest of a new chapter in the chronique scandalesse of the day, There are exhibitions of fine art in every thoroughtare, and shows of bric-a-brac in every street. If we have rinks, we have also bees. Just as the fashion set at Prince's was copied by the King's road, and has gradually become universal, both throughout the capital an I the kingdom, so the spell

ing-bee has become the parent of an innumerable host of similarly edifying entertainments. We have musical bees, historical bees, geographical bees, quotation bees, derivation bees, and there is not the slightest reason why this mode of public personal examination should not be extended to every department of human knowledge. SUPERFICIALITY OF ATTAINMENTS.

The education of society should there fore, it may well be thought, be thorough and complete. Yet, as a matter of fact, it remains pretty well where it has always been. The men and women of the great world neither know more or less. A certain cant of superiority may vein the conversation drawing-rooms, and the cant of art is a sort of tashionable epidemic during the exhibition of the Royal Academy; but the basis of solid knowledge upon which that conversation rests has not become deeper or more solid with the supply of the countless new materials of its structure. It is not too much to say that with ninetynine out of a hundred no specific addition is made to the facts of what may be called their purely educational knowledge after they leave school or college. In other words, while they are graduating in the world's academy, they do nothing to in crease that store of book wisdom of which they may have gained position when as yet in statu pupulliari. Their views of litersture and history remain to the end of their lives what those views were when they passed the last examination and answered the last question. If they have traveled a good deal, they will have increased their knowledge of geography; it they are unusually observant, they will have acquired some novel ideas on the subject of politics

and government. To put it differently,

they may suplify indefinitely their knowledge of nature and of man, but they will not amplify their knowledge of books. This, it may be said, is the highest educa-tion, and we have lately been reminded that such it was esteemed by the Greeks. It must be remembered, however, that we in these days have a lifetory and literature behind us of some eighteen centuries, which the Greeks had not. Beyond the daily and weekly newspaper, which is skimmed rather than read, the enormous majority of intelligent gentlemen whom one encounters, day by day and hour by hour, absolutely avoid print. Perhaps the best proof of the very siender character of the attainments, and the very limited degree of miscellaneous information of which the clubs of whom we now speak can boast, is the admiration invariab vexcited by the fact of pleasure will soon be so exacting in its one of their number betraying something claims that all thoughts of the busices of that is only a tew degrees removed from sheer ignorance on questions of art, of history, of literature, and science. There never was a time when it was easier for a person ambitfous of that renown to purchase the cheap distinction of omniscience among the circle of his club friends. He soul with the precepts of philosophers, poets, has but to travel a little, observe a little, catch up a few shibboleths of artistic criticism, allude now and again to the writers of antiquity and of the renaissance, and he will quickly come to be pointed out as a

> reflecting that he has for a brief while not ineffectively passed as a prodigy. E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wine of Iron has never been known to fail in the cure of weakness, attended with symptoms; indis-position to exertion, loss of memory, diffi-cuity of breathing, general weakness, horror ently of breathing, general weakness, horror of disease, weak, nervous trembling, dreadful horror of death, night sweats, cold feet, weakness, dimness of vision, languor, universal lassitude of the muscular system, enormous appetite with dyspeptic symptoms, bot hands, flashing of the boly, dryness of the skin, pallid countenates and eruptions on the face, purifying the blood, pain in the back, heavingss of the eyelids, required that story thing before the eyest frequent black spots flying before the eyes with temporary suffision and loss of sight want of attention, etc. These symptome all arise from a weakness, and to remedy that, use E. F. Kunkel's Bitter Wire of Iroz, it never fails. Thousands are now erloying health who have used it. Take only E. F. Kunkel's.

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Modern Women. It is a sad commentary upon our boasted civilization that the women of our times have degenerated in health and physique until they are literally a race of invalids-pale, nervous and back-achy, with only here and there a few noble exceptions in the persons of the robust, buxom ladies characteristic of the sex in days gone by. By a very large experience, covering a period of years and embracing the treatment of many thousands of cases of those ailments pecular to women, Dr. Pierce, of the World's Dispensary. Buffalo, N. Y., has perfected, by the combination of certain vegetable extracts, a natural specific, which he does not extol as a cure-all, but one which admirably fulfills a singleness of purpose, being a most positive and reliable remedy for those weaknesses and complaints that afflict the women of the present day. This natural specific compound is called Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. The following are among those diseases in which this wonderful medicine has worked cures as if by magic and with a certainty never before attained by any medicines: Weak back, nervous and general debility, falling and other displacements of internal organs. resulting from debility and lack of strength in natural supports, internal fever, congestion, inflamation and ulceration and very many other chronic diseases incident to woman, not proper to mention here, in which, as well as in the cases that have been enumerated, the favorite prescription effects cures—the marvel of the world. It will do no harm in any state or condition of the system, and by adopting its use the invalid lady may avoid that severest of ordeals-the consulting of a family physician. Favorite prescription is sold by dealers in medicines generally.

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As a simple purgative they are unequaled. BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

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